

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND COMMON SENSE

SYSTEM SAID TO BE REFORMATORY IN RELIGION.

Lecture by Carol Norton, C. S. D., in the Lyceum Theater Last Night—He Was Introduced by Colonel L. A. Watres—Mr. Norton Is a Member of the International Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church of Christian Science in Boston, Mass.—His Remarks.

In the Lyceum last night before an audience that filled the theater to the doors, Carol Norton, C. S. D., delivered his lecture on "Christian Science and Common Sense" under the auspices of the congregation of the local Christian Science church. The speaker of the evening was introduced by Colonel L. A. Watres, who spoke as follows:

SPEAKER INTRODUCED. It is a crowning privilege to live in the dawn of the twentieth century—geographically, commercially and scientifically and in the religious world as well.

A war for humanity has changed the map of the world. Upheavals in the spiritual sphere are transforming the theological atlas by a hidden, but none the less resistless power.

Growth and progress are witnessed everywhere. The canal transport has given way to Stevenson's locomotive, and this in turn to the finer mechanism which in sixty seconds runs a mile.

The Santa Maria was weeks in crossing the ocean, but her fashion has been set aside by the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, which makes the voyage in six days, plus a few hours.

The fallow slip of our grandfathers has been supplanted by the electric spark, which throws a flashlight for many miles, or burns incandescently at your will.

Ericson's propeller, which the high admiralty court of England but recently demonstrated to be a flat failure, today equips every respectable vessel that ploughs the sea.

Within the memory of not the oldest inhabitants, Morse was ridiculed, doubted and called names for asking congress to construct a telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore.

Today messages are sent round the globe in less time than it requires to explain the mechanics of wireless telegraphy is an accomplished fact.

But yesterday, as it were, men were content to wait for days, and travel great distances to communicate with friends upon business or pleasure.

Today, thanks to the "Wizard of the West," we may talk through a hole in the wall over the wire for a thousand miles; and the busy man in Chicago becomes uncontrollable in his rage if "exchange" does not give him his man in Boston within three minutes after due demand.

A STRIKING EXAMPLE. Our own city furnishes a striking example of the growth of ideas. A college or university of over three thousand used to be considered well nigh unmanageable.

Yet in our very midst, presided over by a modest genius, the Colliery Engineer, practically the largest university in the world, is giving to over seventy-five thousand of our youth, not only of our own, but of every other land, the advantages of a college education, the better equipping them to meet and discharge life's duties and responsibilities.

Both time and your patience and the occasion all forbid that I should further pursue this limitless line of thought.

Permit me briefly, however, to suggest that Stevenson discovered no new law. The law of mechanics has always been the same, and will ever be the same.

Had the wise men of the east understood it, their journey would have been materially shortened. Stevenson merely discovered the applicability of that law.

The law applied by Ericson is as old as Sinai. Had Columbus understood it, we would have been discovered several weeks earlier in our voyage.

Professors Henry and Morse and Edison but put a harness upon a power which had existed for all time.

Had it been understood when the Erie canal was opened, that important event would not have been announced by the firing of a cannon.

Solomon's Temple, in all its glory, was not lighted like this Lyceum, because Solomon understood not the law governing arc and incandescent lights.

And may it be said that growth and progress are limited to things material?

It is thinkable that the understanding of God's law, which creates and governs the universe, including man, is stunted in its growth.

With due respect for our grandfathers, are we to be bound by their interpretations and conclusions concerning God's law any more than we should be by their recognized lack of knowledge as to the physical laws?

THE SAME VITAL LAW. Who shall say that Christian Science, as taught by Mrs. Eddy in Science and Health, has discovered a new law? The law of love and of truth and of life has been the same moving and vital law since the morning stars sang together.

Christian Scientists have but discovered that this spiritual law—this law of God, may be understood and applied as to lighten the burdens, and relieve the distresses of a suffering humanity, and that when properly understood, it heals the sick as well as the sinner. Was not this the plain teaching of the Master when he walked among men, and are not many declining and scholarly people agreeing those days that it must be as true now as it was eighteen hundred years ago?

The large and growing body of earnest Christian Workers, so ably represented by the speaker of the evening can do no harm to the world, nor to any other body of Christian workers. They believe in God's power to a greater extent than do their critics—and for doing good deeds to impotent men, are they called in question. For this they are ridiculed and persecuted, until even the cherished provision of the bill of rights, that "one may worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience" is practically repealed, or at least suspended.

In these days when there is an earnest pleading everywhere for "the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace," it would seem but reasonable to expect that all who bear His name

—who are led by the same Spirit, who contend against the same enemies, and who hope in the same promises, would at all events be upon speaking terms, and look upon each other with due comradery, and bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Love, the discriminating characteristic of true religion, is most surely growing in the hearts of men, and it seems to be melting the theological glacier of the centuries.

For the love of God is broader Than the measure of man's mind; And the heart of the Eternal Is most wonderfully kind.

Men everywhere are searching in primitive Christianity, in the life and teachings of the Master for the truth that makes men free.

Although not a member of the Christian Science church, it would be base ingratitude not to openly acknowledge that in its spiritual interpretations of the Bible, and in the healing power, I have found the greatest help and comfort.

But I have too long detained you. I now desire the honor of introducing to you a distinguished member of the Board of Lectureship of the Christian Science church in Boston, Mr. Carol Norton, C. S. D., of New York, who will address you upon the interesting subject of "Christian Science and Common Sense."

MR. NORTON'S ADDRESS. The speaker of the evening was given a hearty reception when he stepped to the front of the stage. He held the close attention of the audience throughout. Without any extended preliminaries he plunged at once into his subject and spoke as follows:

Common sense is with the majority of people the most uncommon thing in the world.

A diamond that can be called wholly perfect is very rare. So is common sense. Common sense is mental dignity. It is the kingdom, law and people all in one.

Common sense is the supreme court of the human mind.

It yields its authority to no lesser power in the affairs of life.

Common sense is the essence of impartiality, rationality, and mental sobriety.

The word "common," means normal or universal. The word "sense" is defined as the normal power of mind or perception, and as rational perception. Hence common sense can be defined as universal, normal, rational perception.

The Standard Dictionary defines common sense as "sound judgment or practical understanding. Capacity to see and take things in their right light."

Common sense is that faculty of the mind which is gained only as the mind's movements, deductions, and perceptions, become harmonious with the law of the universe. Mind to be normal must be in harmony with mental law, alias Nature, or the creative Mind. As Mind and Spirit are synonymous terms, normal mind action is essentially one with spiritual perception, discernment, and understanding.

The divine or Egoistic Mind, alias God, being universal Omnipotence, all real mental action must be divinely scientific and exact. Perfect Mind is the essential nature of Deity. Therefore, all normal mind action in individual life, must partake of the mental life of universal Mind. Hence it can be logically affirmed that common sense is basically named for rational, spiritual, or mental discernment.

Common sense then is the sense common to all normal minds.

This sense analyzes, classifies, weighs, and separates Truth from error and fact from fable. Thus it is apparent that common sense is a spiritual, not a material, or material faculty.

Common sense has nothing to do with personal sense testimony. Common sense as a normal mind's harmonious action, it is the religious instinct that man works out in his individual life, must partake of the mental life of universal Mind. Hence it can be logically affirmed that common sense is basically named for rational, spiritual, or mental discernment.

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All Wrought Up!

Mrs. Pinkham's words to nervous women— How she helped two of them.



"Everything irritates me; I am a bundle of nerves; I ache all over and can't sleep; I don't want to be cross, but I can't help it, and then I get the blues. Little household matters work me up so that I don't know what I am saying or doing."

This extract from one of the letters to Mrs. Pinkham, describes the condition of many women.

The relation of woman's nerves to the womb and its dependencies is very close. Nine-tenths of the nervous dependency and irritability in women arises from some trouble with the organs that make her a woman.

Nothing will relieve this distressing condition so surely as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; it soothes, strengthens, heals and tones up the delicate female organism.

Mrs. Pinkham invites you to write her for advice. You can tell every detail of your illness to her because she is a woman—anyway it is better to address a woman, for a man does not understand simply because he is a man.

Here are two letters from women who wrote to Mrs. Pinkham, followed her advice, and are now well and happy:

Mrs. W. L. ELLIOTT, of Liscomb, Iowa, writes: DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I doctored nearly all the time for two years. I spent several hundred dollars without receiving much benefit. Last June I wrote to you, and described all my aches and pains. Such a long list as there was!—headache, backache, bearing-down pains in the lower part of the bowels, terrible soreness of the womb, leucorrhoea, constipation, dizziness, feeling of extreme lassitude, menorrhagia, and very irregular menstruation. You answered my letter and told me just what to do. I followed your advice. After taking several bottles of the Vegetable Compound, three bottles of Blood Purifier, I am glad to write you that I have not enjoyed such good health for years.

Mrs. CARRIE BURGESS, Box 115, South Gardner, Me., writes: DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—For six years I have suffered with female weakness. At monthly periods I suffered so that I would have to have hot applications applied and take morphine to ease the pain. The pains I had were almost unbearable. I tried all kinds of patent medicine, also was treated by several doctors. Last October I had a very bad sick spell. I had one of the best doctors in the city. He said I had ulcers, gathering and breaking in the womb, also inflammation of the womb and ovaries; but he failed to help me. I was advised to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which I did after writing to Mrs. Pinkham for advice. I have taken the Compound and Blood Purifier, and consider myself a new woman. I can never thank you enough for your advice to me. It would take a lifetime to tell the benefit I have received from your medicine. I would advise all suffering women to take this wonderful medicine, which has no equal.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound A Woman's Remedy for Woman's Ills.

Common Sense, or normal mental understanding, and Christian Science as the demonstrable understanding of the Ego of life are in complete harmony. Metaphysical Christianity is practical Christianity. Ideas and rational divine ideas base the life and teachings of the Founder of Christianity. His religion is impersonal, hence universal, and is demonstrated by the scientific interpretation and demonstration of the religion of Jesus in a scientific and common sense way of appropriating its grandeur, and realizing its grandeur, and realizing its immortal perfection.

Ontology, the science of general being, and psychology, or the Science of Soul, should be a vital part of Christian theology, reformation and healing. It is self-evident from the foregoing analysis that Common Sense, Christian Science, Metaphysics, Idealism, Psychology, Ideas and Ideals are but parts of scientific and practical monothetic Christian religion. Common Sense should be distinguished from uncommon or unusual sense. The first is normal and the second abnormal, though it often tries to parade in the garments of common sense.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED. A series of popular and general questions concerning Christian Science, answered briefly will help to show the practical utility between Common Sense and Christian Science.

Question—What is the religious or Christian basis of Christian Science? Answer—God is Mind or Spirit, is All in all. The only Reality.

Question—What is the vital difference between Christian Scientists and religionists at large, who subscribe at least theoretically to the Christian religion? Answer—Christian Scientists accept the idea of the all-power, or allness of God or divine Mind, and proceed to the logical ultimate of this idea. Hence, their union of bodily and spiritual or moral healing. Religionists in general theoretically believe in the allness of God, but go half way in their belief. Hence, go to God, or Spirit, for soul salvation, or perfection, and to material systems and speculation for bodily health.

Question—Is Christian Science natural or supernatural, and does it rely on faith or prayer cure for the healing of the sick? Answer—It is divinely natural. God is Law and Omnipotence is Deity. Hence, God and His ways, modes, or laws are unchanging and exact. Supernaturalism and miracles involve a suspension of the normal divine order. If such were the spiritual order, God would be self-suspended and the eternal harmony be broken. Nature, Law and God are really one. Faith and prayer cure include petitionary prayer to a personal humanized God. At the very outset they differ from the way and means of Christian Science, which accepts God as the divine Principle or Father—the Creator of health of body, as well as of character.

Question—What does Christian Science mean when it affirms that God and Nature are one? Answer—God is natural or universal Cause. Life is Cause, and life to be self-existent must be perfect, because God is self-existent in mind and is capable of self-perpetuation. It is the positive or reality of all being. Evil or error is in its very nature self-destructive, and when it is in the body, it destroys itself. Hence, the scriptural utterance, "dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." The record of every distinct evil in human history will confirm this theory. As Bryant wrote: "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again, and be crowned with victory."

The eternal years of God are here. And error wounded, writes in vain. And dies amidst her worshippers."

Good alone is material. Hence, no evil comes from God, either directly or indirectly. Health is normal because natural. Health, then, not disease, should be on the program of life. Question—If God is Mind, is Mind supreme, and what is meant by matter's unreality? Answer—Mind is primary. Man thinks of things. Things cannot think of Mind. Mind thinks and things are thoughts. Mind is always first. Mind is life-force, energy, motion, and animation. Mind is the Principle of harmony, beauty, order and infinite individuality. No eye or instrument has ever seen the ultimate atom or molecule, which is wholly an assumption. What we call matter is but human thought externalized. Prenatal impression governs this. It also proves that the human body and all its organization is but the mental sub-division of mortal or human mind essence. Science mental control of matter through divine Mind-power, the positive health Principle, and all organic diseases of the body can be healed. In this manner, the mind can control matter, dissolve cancer, cure locomotor ataxia, and restore diseased lunas.

Question—Is physical healing the principal work of Christian Science? Answer—No. It is a natural accompaniment of the spiritual reform work of the system. Healing of sin and disease were one in early Christianity, and they have become one in this age. Therefore, no medical emunctations can interfere with spiritual healing as a necessary part of man's religion and right relationship with God.

COMMON SENSE STATEMENTS. Common Sense says if sin causes disease drugs cannot cure it. If Christians follow Christ's example in spiritual things and in His methods of healing, they should imitate His healing the sick without drugs.

If spiritual or mental healing remains unobtainable, then, whores, storn, pelicans, death-dealing lightning bolts, decay, deformity, pain, sorrow, and death are heavenly and natural things, and hell is a fact. If the resistance to temptation takes

from evil the power that it would otherwise gain over mortals, the same process of mental resistance to suggestions of pain, weakness, and disease will take from these errors every jot of their power to mar the body. If Christian Science reforms (and it does) the depraved, destroys liquor and drug habits, purifies the impure, heals organic disease, like cancer, consumption, and spiritually interprets the Bible and re-establishes the religion of Jesus, the people want it. The masses will have it, long. Scripture and suits are all on its side, and all who either willfully or ignorantly try to obstruct its mighty onward march only increase the number of its victims. Opposition to that which is both Christian and scientific only ends in hastening its general acceptance.

GOOD IS NATURAL, HEALTH IS NORMAL. Common Sense affirms that all that is normal is natural. Fish need water; vegetation, the sunlight and rainfall. The birds demand the air as men need righteousness. All life is based on ideal conditions. Society is built on the ideals of law, justice, tolerance, freedom, brotherhood, love, and individual rights. A morally-minded man is a spiritual idealist, or perhaps more accurately, a Realist, for the spiritual is the only real. Some aspects of morality represent but restraint or temperance in material conditions or error.

A moral man is an individualization of the moral law. A man whose mind and life are pure, loving, unselfish, and metaphysical can be termed a representative or embodiment of the spiritual law. Moral and spiritual power and strength are normal conditions to these two types of character.

Health of body is as much a condition of nature, or character, as of physical organization. Health, wholeness, boldness and normality are synonymous words. Good is natural. Hence it is the immortal Principle of life. Evil or error is unnatural. Therefore health is man's normal condition. Life is mental, for Mind is Causation. Hence the real life of man is universal Mind, alias Nature—God. "In Him we live and move and have our being." Above the material sense of things, says the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, all is harmony. Physical health is primarily a condition of Mind. In fact every detail of so-called organic movement, functional action, and all physical conditions are ruled by Mind, and all is Mind and there is no matter.

This statement can be made to read, all that is real, immortal and perfect is Mind. All substance is Mind; what is called matter is but a subjective state an externalization of the human or mortal mind. As Mr. Husley says, "Matter is but a hypothetical cause of states of our own consciousness."

SELF-EVIDENT TRUTHS. From these simple, self-evident truths Common Sense makes three pertinent deductions.

1. Matter is not a substance, but a subjective state of mind.

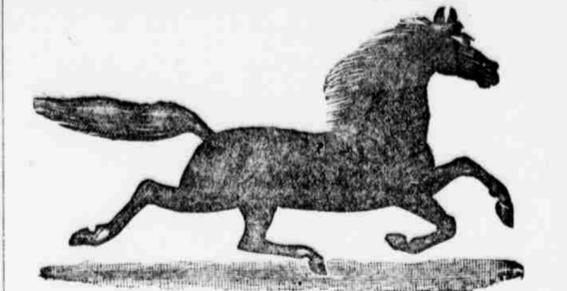
2. Mind is the only reality.

3. Health is the normal condition of man.

Continued on Page 5

I have uniformly found that BROWN'S Bronchial Trochies afford relief.—REV. HENRY WILKES, Montreal. In boxes only—Avoid imitations.

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We have been in Scranton over 16 years; we are here low; we intend to stay here. Our business is not a mere expedient. We will not do work today that you can't call us to account for tomorrow. We compete with the cheap advertising dentists who are here today and gone tomorrow. We do not compare our work to a contract. So do not make a mistake; all our operators are experts of skill and experience and not mere students. Still our prices are lower than the lowest. Beware of impostors and charlatans who can afford to ruin your teeth because they are not financially responsible. How can we do better than they? The answer is easy. We have a dental office in nearly every city in the United States, and we buy our supplies at wholesale for cost. No wonder we can give better prices than anyone else. Experience counts also, and we have experience besides our diplomas. Don't be lulled; get the best, the most reliable, the most comfortable and the most durable. The newest methods! The latest applications! The best materials! These are attractions worth considering. Besides, nervous people and those with heart weakness can have their teeth filled or crowned with absolute safety and positively without pain. We are the only up-to-date Dental establishment in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Teeth extracted in the morning and a new set furnished in the afternoon is an old practice of ours. We are the original; all others are mere imitators. We are the originators of vitalized air.

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BEECHAM'S PILLS Cure CONSTIPATION STOMACH PAINS BILIOUSNESS SICK HEADACHE, Etc. 10 cents and 25 cents—Druggists.

NERVOUS WOMEN. Horsford's Acid Phosphate quiets the nerves, and induces sleep. Take no Substitute.

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